Escorts floating dry dock at Bombay

1818. DR. (SHRIMATI) SAROJINI MAHISHI:
SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal of permanent location of Escorts Floating Dry Dock at Bombay has been deferred;

(b) whether the Escort Floating Dry Dock still continues to operate from Bombay;

(c) whether the officials of the Nhava Sheva Port have objected to the existence of Escorts Floating Dry Dock; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to remove the Escorts Floating Dry Dock from Bombay harbour?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) There is no proposal of permanent location of Escorts Floating Dry Dock at Bombay under consideration of the Government. As such, question of deferring it does not arise.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It has been removed from Nhava Sheva Port Trust waters and presently anchored at Bombay Port Trust waters.

Yellowing of Taj Mahal

1819. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to statement made by Director General of Archaeological Survey of India Dr. M. S. Nagaraya Rao made in the third week of December, 1986 according to which Taj Mahal had not actually yellowed, it was the protective acrylic coating which had been applied over the Taj some decades ago that had yellowed;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Statement is based on the studies conducted by the scientists of the National Research Laboratory for Conservation of Cultural Property which points out that one type of yellowing is due to change in the colour of the acrylic coating which was apparently applied in certain areas on experimental basis. In other areas, the Yellowing has been caused due to accumulation of dirt and palm grease left on the surface.

(c) This is considered to be a natural phenomenon not harmful to the marble. Further studies of the samples drawn from various other points are in progress. Stone of Taj has been found to be in fairly good condition and chemical cleaning of certain portions has given good results.

Encouragement to the Indian System of Medicine

1820. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to encourage Indian System of Medicine and to set up a Permanent research base to evolve standard formulations of Drugs and achieve excellence in selected areas of health care;

(b) whether Government also propose to encourage Ayurdea, Unani and Siddha systems of treatment in the country; and